

**Mental Health Services Act
Workforce Education and Training**

Licensing and Certification

Special Topic Workgroup

July 12, 2006

1. Present.

- a. Kathleen Austria, SEIU Local 660, Los Angeles
- b. Marianne Baptista, California Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies (CASRA)
- c. Basil Bernstein, M.D., University of California San Francisco Department of Psychiatry
- d. Michael Brooks, American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work
- e. Robin Carter, California State University Sacramento School of Social Work
- f. Rolando Castillo, Grossmont College, Welcome Back Program
- g. Chad Costello, Mental Health Association Los Angeles (MHA LA)
- h. Jan Cummings, California Coalition for Counselor Licensure
- i. Georgia Ann DeGroat, Consumer/Family member representative
- j. Wendy Desormeaux, Department of Mental Health
- k. Don Edmondson, Consumer representative
- l. Randall Hagar, California Psychiatric Association
- m. Dave Hosseini, California Network of Mental Health Clients
- n. Connie Lira, California Mental Health Planning Council
- o. Henry Omoregi, Department of Mental Health
- p. Shelley Spear, United Advocates for Children (UACC)
- q. Paul Riches, Board of Behavioral Science Examiners
- r. Mary Riemersma, California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists
- s. Gloria Robertson, Office of Statewide Health Planning Department (OSHDP)
- t. Dave Schroeder, Mental Health Association Sacramento
- u. Vicki Smith, California Institute of Mental Health (CIMH)
- v. Lydia Torres, Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital
- w. Inna Tysoe, Department of Mental Health

Facilitator: Warren Hayes, Department of Mental Health

2. Power Point Presentation. (See Attached)

The group reviewed a power point presentation that outlined the reason for the workgroup topic, the MHSA Workforce Education and Training context for this topic, operating principles for developing recommendations and options, the process for review and consideration of workgroup products, and short- versus

long-term considerations. The California Mental Health Planning Council's recommendations, as well as a broad summary of stakeholder input to date was reviewed and discussed.

3. Issues.

The group listed a number of potential licensing and certification issues in statute, regulations, and policy that could positively impact workforce shortages, and identified four broad tracks that will be pursued by a smaller group of subject matter experts drawn from the workgroup.

a. Medi-Cal

The group will review the minimum requirements to sign treatment plans, how service codes are defined in relation to consumer and family member participation, and differences between rehabilitation versus therapeutic rehabilitation services. The group will also look at how other states handle Medicaid.

Dave Schroeder, Chad Costello, Shelley Spear, Vicki Smith, Kathleen Austria and Buzz Bernstein agreed to serve on this group.

b. Licensure

This group will look at portability, licensing requirements, skill sets and resulting examination questions, supervision across disciplines, increasing the number of professions who can become licensed, waiver eligibility to become licensed, and stipulating clinical hours be performed in public mental health.

Paul Riches, Jan Cummings, Gloria Robertson, Michael Brooks, Gerri Esposito (nominated), Mary Riemersma, Lydia Torres, Rolando Castillo, John Blando (nominated) and Kathleen Austria agreed to serve on this group.

c. Skill Sets and Core Competencies

This group will look at recommendations for transforming how agencies describe the job descriptions and minimum qualifications required of positions working in public mental health. The Psychiatric Rehabilitation Certification Program (CPRP), and processes and practices of other states will be reviewed in addition to best practices exhibited in California.

Dave Schroeder, Don Edmondson, Marianne Baptista, Jan Cummings, Dave Hosseini, Georgia DeGroat, Lydia Torres, Robin Carter and Kathleen Austria agreed to serve on this group.

d. Medication Prescription, Administration and Management

This group will review the minimum qualifications required to prescribe, administer and manage psychotropic medications.

Buzz Bernstein, Randall Hagar, Gloria Robertson, Connie Lira, Paul Riches, Bethany Phoenix and Dave Schroeder agreed to serve on this group.

4. Process

The group endorsed the following process to follow in addressing issues for which a product, or issue paper is to be developed.

- Restate and prioritize the issues
- Determine what information is needed
- Review applicable statutes, regulations, policies
- Review history
- Identify the positions and stakeholders
- Develop options
- Identify parties that are for and against
- Fiscal impacts
- Identify any consensus recommendations

Staff support will be provided by DMH, and additional staff assistance will be solicited from participating individuals who have available staff support.

5. Next Steps.

The groups will each meet via a set of teleconferences and organize the topics, assign tasks and responsibilities, and set milestones and timelines for producing an end product of a set of issue papers. The tentative target date for completion of these groups was set for the end of December.

The larger workgroup will meet again to review small group progress on Tuesday, October 3 at the California Endowment.